

Claims

1. A monitoring system in a motor vehicle, for detecting an incorrectly locked detent connection between a gas bag module (10) and a vehicle-fixed component,
  - 5 comprising first and second detent elements (14, 16) complementary to each other,  
characterized in that a signal circuit (24) is provided, having first and second contact elements (26, 28) which are part of a switch (30) arranged in said signal circuit (24), a monitoring signal being generated when said switch (30) is closed  
10 and  
said contact elements (26, 28) being in electrical contact with each other, with said switch (30) being closed in an incorrectly locked state of said first and second detent elements (14, 16) only.
  2. The monitoring system according to Claim 1, characterized in that said  
15 monitoring signal is an acoustic signal.
  3. The monitoring system according to Claim 1, characterized in that said signal circuit (24) is part of a horn circuit.
  4. The monitoring system according to Claim 1, characterized in that said signal circuit (24) is supplied by a battery (34) of said vehicle.
  - 20 5. The monitoring system according to Claim 1, characterized in that said first detent element (14) is a metal part fastened on one of said vehicle-fixed component and said gas bag module (10), said metal part being partially surrounded by an electrical insulation (150).
  - 25 6. The monitoring system according to Claim 1, characterized in that said second detent element (16) is formed by at least one detent hook fastened on one of said gas bag module (10) and said vehicle-fixed component.

7. The monitoring system according to Claim 1, characterized in that said first contact element (26) is formed by said first detent element (14).
8. The monitoring system according to Claim 1, characterized in that said first contact element is formed by a metal sheet fastened on one of said gas bag module (10) and said vehicle-fixed component (13).  
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9. The monitoring system according to Claim 1, characterized in that said second contact element (28) is a metal sheet fastened on one of said gas bag module (10) and said vehicle-fixed component.
10. A monitoring system in a motor vehicle, for detecting an incorrectly locked detent connection between a gas bag module (10) and a vehicle-fixed component,  
10 comprising first and second detent elements (14, 16) complementary to each other,  
characterized in that a signal circuit (124) is provided, having first and second  
15 contact elements (126, 128) which are part of a first switch (130) arranged in said signal circuit (124),  
said signal circuit (124) comprising a second switch (36) which is open in a basic state and is connected in series with said first switch (130),  
said contact elements (126, 128) being in electrical contact with each other in a  
20 correctly locked state of said detent elements (14, 16) only, so that said first switch (130) is closed and said signal circuit (124) can be closed by closing said second switch (36).
11. The monitoring system according to Claim 10, characterized in that said signal circuit (124) is part of a horn circuit and said second switch (36) is formed  
25 by horn contacts (128, 38).

12. The monitoring system according to Claim 10, characterized in that said first contact element (126) is formed by a metal sheet fastened on one of said gas bag module (10) and said vehicle-fixed component.
13. The monitoring system according to Claim 10, characterized in that said 5 first contact element (126) is formed by said first detent element (14).
14. The monitoring system according to Claim 10, characterized in that said first detent element (14) is a metal part fastened on one of said vehicle-fixed component and said gas bag module (10).
15. The monitoring system according to Claim 10, characterized in that said 10 second contact element (128) is a metal sheet fastened on one of said gas bag module (10) and said vehicle-fixed component.
16. The monitoring system according to Claim 10, characterized in that said signal circuit (124) is supplied by a battery (34) of said vehicle.